

A3  
Cnd

1 15. (Amended) Use of the recombinant DNA molecule according to [claims from 6 to 13]  
2 claim 6 to significantly increase the size of nodules of a plant.

A3

1 17. (Amended) Use of the recombinant DNA molecule according to [claims from 6 to 13]  
2 claim 6 to significantly increase the capacity to fix nitrogen of a nodulated plant.

A4 B1

1 19. (Amended) Use of the recombinant DNA molecule according to [claims from 6 to 13]  
2 claim 6 to significantly increase the plant biomass production.

A5

1 21. (Amended) Legume plant infected by bacteria [harbouring] harboring the recombinant  
2 DNA molecule according to [claims from 6 to 13] claim 6 and having a significant increase of the  
3 size of nodules, and/or of the nodule capacity to fix nitrogen, and/or of the plant biomass, and/or  
4 of the ability to fix nitrogen.

**REMARKS**

The present preliminary amendment is submitted in order to correct the improper multiple dependency of claims as originally filed.

Examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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